

From: Jim Hall
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/12/02 11:13pm
Subject: public comment: Microsoft antitrust litigation

I am writing this email to send a short statement on what I believe would be a suitable remedy to the Microsoft antitrust litigation. This is in response to the public comment that was invited for 60 days.

After reviewing the findings of fact in this trial, and based on my position and experience in the Information Technology industry, I cannot see how the settlement that is proposed even pretends to remedy the antitrust violations for which Microsoft has been found culpable.

A suitable penalty, in my opinion, would be to split the Microsoft company into two halves: one that provides operating systems, and one that provides application software (including the web browser.) The two halves must be prohibited from bundling the other's products for a period of no less than seven (7) years. Further, only one of the split companies should be allowed to carry the "Microsoft" name, to prevent confusion in the marketplace that the two halves still operate as one.

I believe that such a remedy would require the new companies to fairly compete with other software companies in the marketplace. Microsoft would not be able to leverage a monopoly on the operating system at the desktop level to push application software. Other vendors would be put on a more level playing field with the two Microsoft companies.

Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

James Hall
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>"Public comment is invited within 60 days of the date of this
>notice. Such comments, and responses thereto, will be published in the
>Federal Register and filed with the Court. Comments should be directed
>to Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney, Suite 1200, Antitrust Division,
>Department of Justice, 601 D Street NW, Washington, DC 20530;
>(facsimile) 202-616-9937 or 202-307-1545; or e-mail
>microsoft.atr@usdoj.gov. While comments may also be sent by regular
>mail, in light of recent events affecting the delivery of all types of
>mail to the Department of Justice, including U.S. Postal Service and
>other commercial delivery services, and current uncertainties
>concerning when the timely delivery of this mail may resume, the
>Department strongly encourages, whenever possible, that comments be

>submitted via email or facsimile."
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